



State of California – The Natural Resources Agency Department Of Parks And Recreation

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve
Water System Improvement Project

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2014

Draft Environmental Impact Report

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is the Lead Agency for the Water System Improvement Project (Project) at Armstrong Redwoods State natural Reserve (Park), as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). DPR is preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Project. We are inquiring about views of interested persons/agencies as to the scope relevant to your concerns and/or agency's statutory responsibilities, in connection with the proposed Project. This Notice of Preparation (NOP) includes the Project Location, Project Description, and Possible Effects and Mitigations.

Project Location

The Park is located in Sonoma County approximately 70 miles north of San Francisco and 3 miles north of Guerneville. The Park is operated by DPR's Russian River District. The District offices are located at 25381 Steelhead Blvd., Duncans Mills, California.

Project Description

The Project consists of construction activities required to improve the existing water system. The California Department of Parks and Recreation proposes to replace the existing 4" waterline with an 8" (required by the State Fire Marshall for fire suppression) C900 line from the front of the park near the kiosk to the existing 50,000 gallon water tank near the administration building at the back of the park, approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away. Work would use Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) as the primary waterline installation method and would use open trenching at connection points or short distances where HDD would not be practical or cost effective. The Draft EIR will evaluate potential environmental impacts from anticipated project activities in the park.

Possible Effect(s) and Mitigation(s)

The EIR will evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed implementation actions of this Project. The anticipated implementation activities could affect visual/aesthetic, biological, air quality, and noise. The Project will incorporate standard mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts. Where appropriate and feasible, BMPs will be used to reduce emissions and fugitive dust levels, minimize short-term impacts to internal roadways, reduce noise, and minimize visual impacts. The Draft EIR's Project Description and impact evaluations will provide a detailed discussion of these measures, but for purposes of this NOP the following provides an initial review of some, but not all, possible effects and mitigations:

Biological Resources: Project implementation activities could temporarily impact sensitive plant and wildlife species. Mitigation measures include: surveys to avoid sensitive plants, habitat and sensitive wildlife breeding season.

Air Quality: Horizontal Directional Drilling rigs powered by diesel fuel could temporarily impact local air quality through creation equipment emissions.

Noise: Horizontal Directional Drilling activities may temporarily impact noise levels. Remediation would be restricted to 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, unless there is an emergency.

Responses to this NOP

As mandated by State law, responses must be submitted to the address provided below no later than thirty (30) calendar days after this notice is filed with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research/State Clearinghouse (March 18, 2014) **Review Period: March 18 – April 16, 2014.**

Please include the full name, telephone number with area code, and email address of a contact person with each submittal.

Submit Comments To:

DPR – Northern Service Center.

Attn: Patricia DuMont – Environmental Coordinator

One Capitol Mall, Suite 410

Sacramento, CA 95814

Email: CEQANSC@parks.ca.gov (Subject Line: Armstrong Redwoods)

